

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SOCI, RO
SUBJ: PRELIMINARY ROMANIAN CENSUS DATE: MINORITIES

1. RCP POLEXCO COMMUNIQUE (SCINTEIA, JUNE 8) CONTAINS FIRST RELEASE OF PARTIAL DATA FROM THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL CENSUS. MORE PRELIMINARY DATA WILL BE PUBLISHED IN FUTURE, ACCORDING TO POLEXCO DECISION. ROMANIAN POPULATION AS OF JANUARY 5,1977 TOTLED (21,559,416 - 12.9 PERCENT INCREASE FROM 1966 CENSUS TOTAL. ALSO, 47.5 PERCENT OF POPULATION NOW LIVES IN MUNICIPALITIES, CITIES OR SUBURBAN COMMUNITIES.

2. POLEXCO COMMUNIQUE NOTES THAT IN SPIRIT OF RCP'S NATIONALITY POLICY, EACH CITIZEN WAS FREE TO DECLARE HIS OWN NATIONALITY. POPULATION DATA WAS GIVEN ONLY FOR THREE GROUPS BELOW AND THEN AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION FROM WHICH EMBASSY HAS CALCULATED ACTUAL FIGURES:

1966 CENSUS: ROMANIANS 16,746,510 (87.7); HUNGARIANS 1,619,592 (8.5); GERMANS 382,595 (2.0)
1977 CENSUS: ROMANIANS 19,001,822 (88.137); HUNGARIANS 1,708,945 (7.912); GERMANS 348,400 (1.616)

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3. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY CALCULATIONS, ETHNIC ROMANIAN POPULATION HAS INCREASED BY 13.4 PERCENT WHILE HUNGARIAN TOTAL HAS GROWN BY ONLY 5.5 PERCENT. GERMANS, AS EXPECTED DUE TO HEAVY EMIGRATION, HAVE SUFFERED NET DECREASE OF 8.9 PERCENT.

4. COMMENT: CENSUS DATA CONFIRMS CONTINUED PERCENTAGE (AND IN CASE OF GERMANS, NET) DECLINE OF MINORITY POPULATION IN ROMANIA. HOWEVER, DATA UNDOUBTEDLY SOMEWHAT UNDER-REPRESENTS THEIR REAL NUMBERS DUE TO SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PRESSURE WHICH LEAD SOME MEMBERS OF MINORITIES TO DECLARE THEMSELVES AS ROMANIAN.

VIETS

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Message Attributes

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